

# Court Interpreter Update

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Register for Interpreter Orientation October 17-18, 2007 in Lake County.

## Spanish Practice Oral Exam Kits Now Available to Prepare for Certification!

*Requests for kits should be directed to Adrienne Meiring at the Division of State Court Administration.*

Learn more about becoming a certified court interpreter

## Skills Building & Registration for Oral Exam

Twenty-five candidates, some coming as far as Gary, South Bend, and Crossville, IL, attended the July session of Skills Building held in Indianapolis. In addition to receiving one-on-one instruction from certified facilitators on sight translation, consecutive, and simultaneous interpretation, candidates had the opportunity to take a mock oral exam and receive meaningful feedback.

Many candidates indicated that the mock exam has helped them gain some confidence about the oral certification exam by lessening the "fear of the unknown" factor.

Registration for the oral exam is being conducted now. Eligible candidates (individuals who have passed the written exam and attended Skills Building, even if in a previous session) who would like to take the oral exam should contact Adrienne Meiring at 317-232-2542 to schedule a testing time.

## Court Interpreter Presentations Scheduled for Fall Judicial Conference



Prof. Maria Pabón López

Prof. Maria Pabón López from I.U. School of Law - Indianapolis and Alée A. Alger-Robbins, a federal and state court certified interpreter and trainer, will present *The Tower of Babel: Use of Court Interpreters* at the September Judicial Conference in Fort Wayne.

Robbins will discuss practical considerations when working with court interpreters and give program participants an opportunity to mimic simultaneous interpretation. Lopez will provide a case law update on court interpreter issues affecting trial courts.

At a plenary session, Robbins will discuss the importance of using certified interpreters, citing examples of testing errors committed by non-certified interpreters on the oral exam. There also will be a demonstration of how easy it is to use the Supreme Court funded Language Line Program.

### Did you know . . .

Nike made a tv ad promoting its shoes by having people from different countries say "Just do it" in their native languages. Company officials found out too late that a Samburu African tribesman was really saying, "I don't want these, give me big shoes!"

### Contact Us

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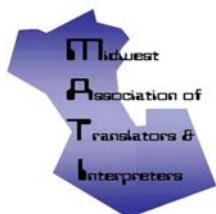
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## Regional Training Sessions Offered

Listed below are a variety of regional training opportunities available in the next couple of months. Court interpreters, please take the opportunity to network with your colleagues.



MATI will hold its [Fourth Annual Conference](#) on September 8, 2007 at Beloit College in Beloit, WI. Keynote speaker Isabel Framer will present *Interpreting Beyond the Words: The Profession Comes of Age*. Other sessions include community and conference interpreting, introduction to wordfast and terminology management. [Early Bird Registration](#) before September 3, 2007 is \$90 for members, \$110 for non-members, and \$25-30 for students.



TAPIT and NAJIT will hold their [Fifth Annual Conference](#) on September 14-16, 2007 at Belmont University in Nashville, TN. Keynote speaker Marshall Morris will present *What is Desirable in the Education of Translators*. Other sessions include updates for medical interpreters, effective emotional detachment for judicial interpreters, and forensic translation. [Early bird registration](#) ends August 24th.



The National Consortium is sponsoring [court interpreter workshops](#) on October 13-14, 2007 at the St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, MN. Sessions include interactive seminars on consecutive and simultaneous interpreting. Early bird registration of \$200 ends September 1st.

## Legal & Legislative Updates

**Rockville, Maryland** - [Charges](#) against Liberian immigrant Mahamu Kanneh, accused of raping a 7-year-old girl, were dismissed this July due to delays in finding a Vai interpreter. Circuit Court Judge Katherine D. Savage ruled that the delays in the nearly three-year-old case violated Mr. Kanneh's right to a speedy trial.



A court-appointed psychiatrist had recommended that a [Vai interpreter be appointed](#); however, a clerk with the court had difficulty keeping an interpreter on the case. Linguists estimate that only 100,000 people speak Vai, mostly in Liberia and Sierra Leone. The first interpreter appointed left the courtroom in tears due to the allegations against the defendant. A second was rejected for faulty work. A third had to tend to a family emergency at the last minute.

[Prosecutors](#) plan to appeal the judge's ruling.